THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions has submitted in April 2007, a report based on a conference held by it at New Delhi on the 3rd December 2006, recommending the establishment of a Central Madarsa Board through an Act of Parliament for the "standardization of the Madarsa system of education" without interfering in the theological content thereof.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has been implementing a Centrally-Sponsored Scheme, since 1993 providing financial assistance, for the introduction of modern subjects in those Madarsas which voluntarily apply through the respective State Governments.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Impact of climate change

4122. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that now the UN's IPCC on April 6, 2007 has categorically mentioned India as a high risk area about the impact of climate change in India; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to at least monitor parameters relating to the melting of glaciers in the Himalayan ranges?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The UN's IPCC Report provides a global assessment of observed climate change, climate processes and estimates of projected future climate change at the continental level. No country specific findings have been reported.

(b) Government has initiated a Himalayan Glaciology Programme for monitoring glacier environments, physical characteristics, and paleo-climatology of Himalayan glaciers.

Gangotri glacier system, Satopanth and Bhagirath Kharak in the Alaknanda catchment, Durung Drung glacier, Zanskar, Ladakh and Naradu

glacier valley are some of the systems that are being monitored and studied under the research projects.

Report of climate change forecasting

4123. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the most shocking U.N. Panel Report on the climate change forecasting that India would be among countries, wrost affected by global warming;

(b) the ill-effects and dangers forecasted against India; and

(c) whether the U.N. Panel Report on this aspect is reliable and scientific?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The U.N. Report provides a global assessment of observed climate change, climate processes and estimates of projected future climate change at the continental level. The salient findings of the Report include increase in the global atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide as a result of human activities since 1750 and increase in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice and rising global average sea level resulting in negative economic impact. No country specific findings have been reported.

(c) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has been established by World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to assess scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant for the understanding of climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation. The Report on this aspect is an assessment based on the published scientific literature worldwide. It is synthesized by the experts in the relevant field under the aegis of the IPCC.

U.N. Panel Report on Global Warming

4124. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.N. Panel Report on Global Warming has been considered seriously or ignored by other countries;